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Changing Nature of Academic Librarianship: Implementing a Distributed Institutional Repository

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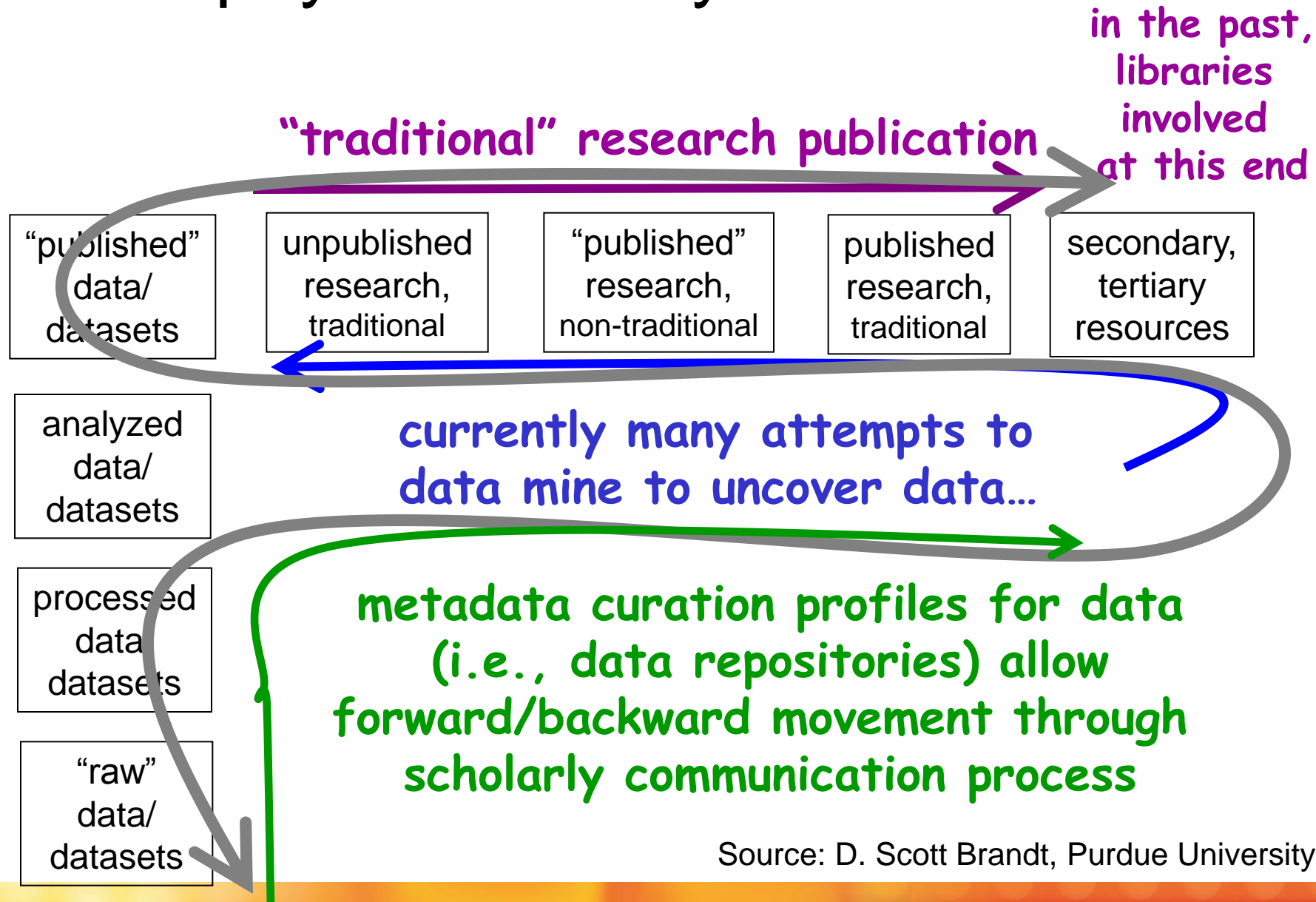
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Chemical Information Specialist

Today's talk

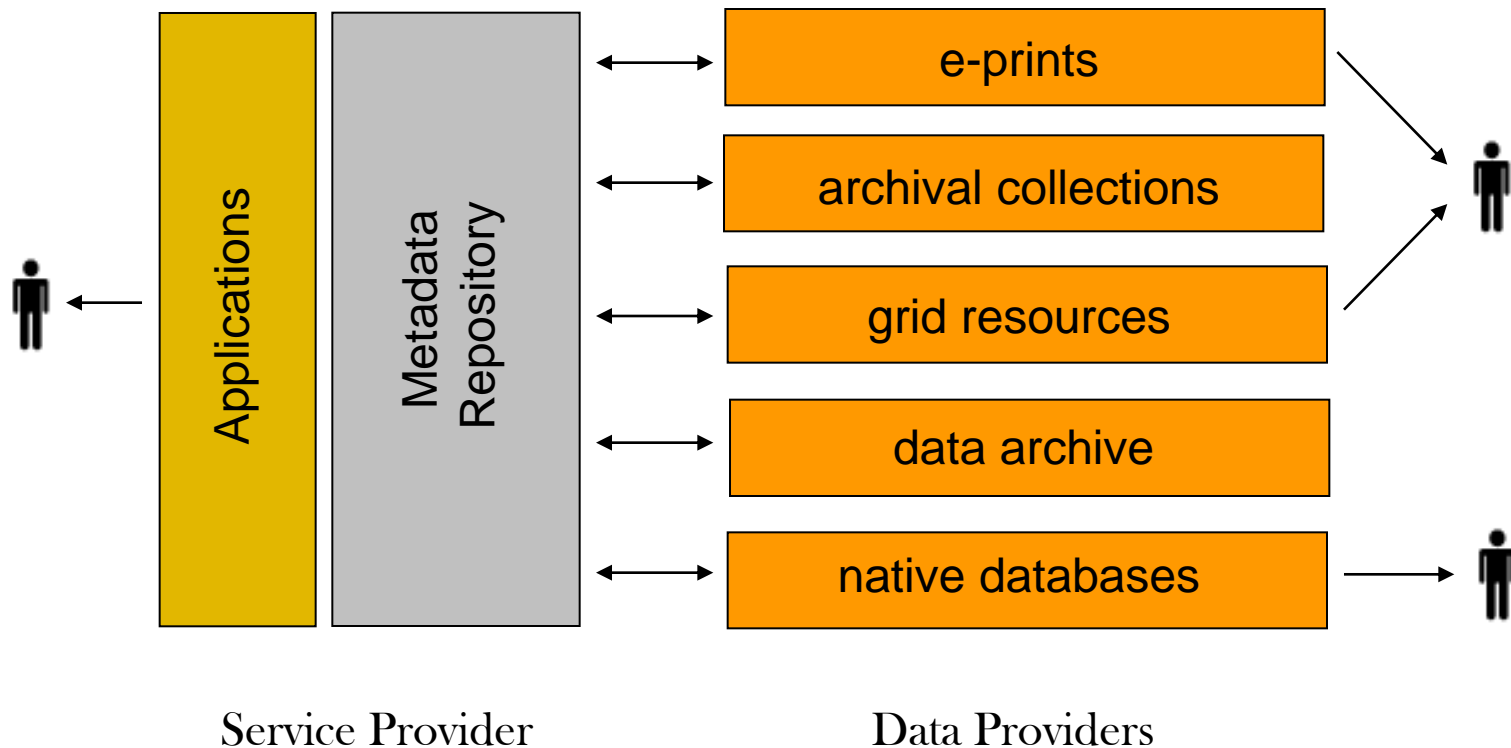
- Philosophy/Rationale
- Concept of Purdue e-Scholar
- New Positions: Created/Modified
- Existing Positions: Adapting
- Success and Challenges
- Future

Philosophy – Scholarly Communication



Source: D. Scott Brandt, Purdue University

Concept: Distributed Institutional Repository (DIR)



Source: Michael Witt, Purdue University

In Practice...

Purdue e-Scholar Libraries

Collections of research data, publications, and archives created and curated by Purdue University

Beta version

[Help](#)
[What is e-Scholar?](#)

e-Archives



The digitized archives and special collections of Purdue University

e-Pubs



A digital document repository including e-books, papers, reports, dissertations, journal articles, and other documents by Purdue authors

e-Data



An online research data repository containing data sets and data files of Purdue researchers

PURDUE
UNIVERSITY

The Human Side of Purdue e-Scholar

- New positions created/modified
 - Associate Dean for Research
 - Interdisciplinary Research Librarian
 - e-Scholar Coordinator
- Existing positions adapting
 - Subject/Liaison Librarians

Associate Dean for Research (ADR)

- Meant to level the playing field
- Looks at the bigger picture
 - Internal and external research efforts
- Coordinates sponsored research activities
 - Plays “match maker”

ADR Efforts

- Initiating a broader conversation
- Helping with their information problems—access, sharing, preservation...what?
- Selling point: Problem Solving Approach
- Emphasizing *Access and Sharing* in addition to *Archiving and Preservation*

ADR Results

- Raising awareness
- Initiating buy-in at highest levels
- e-Scholar can be customer driven
- Efforts trickle down to liaison librarians
- Can create too much interest
- May take time to solve some problems

e-Scholar Coordinator

- 65% / 35% Mgmt Reference Librarian
- Administrative professional position
- Coordinates day to day input into e-Pubs

e-Scholar Coordinator Efforts

- Working closely with liaison librarians
- Gathering information for creation of:
 - Communities
 - Document series
 - Metadata fields

e-Scholar Coordinator Results

- Helping liaison librarians understand e-Pubs
- Training non-Libraries staff to upload docs
- Split between two areas of responsibility
- Still relying on IT for certain functions
- Struggling with lack of policies

Interdisciplinary Research Librarian (IRL)

- Previously Systems Librarian
- Recently received MLS
- Combining technical expertise with library science to solve information problems
- Liaison to Discovery Park—collection of research centers

IRL Efforts

- Coordinating e-Data efforts
- Working closely with research groups
- Building linkages between e-Scholar components
- Submitting grant proposals

IRL Results

- Initiating e-Scholar services: SRU, batch loads of information
- Helping bridge gap in technical expertise
- Solving problems related to electronic theses and dissertations (ETD)
- Only one person—high demand for services
- Can only take conversation so far in terms of subject expertise

SRU: a web service

Search & Retrieve via URL

<http://sru.lib.purdue.edu/sru?version=1.1&operation=searchRetrieve&creator=chan>

base url

searchpart

A person using a web browser sends a URL with the search criteria embedded in it to the SRU web service. The web service parses the URL into operations and key/value pairs, queries the metadata repository, and returns the results as XML. A style sheet can be included to present the results in a web browser. SRU can also be used for machine-to-machine communication to create data feeds.

Library of Congress: <http://www.loc.gov/standards/sru/sru-spec.html>

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Subject/Liaison Librarians

- ~34 librarians, spread across 15 libraries
- Faculty, tenure track
- Varying numbers of faculty responsibility
- Collection development, instruction, reference, etc.

Subject/Liaison Librarian Efforts

- Identifying departments or groups to approach
- Identifying publications/data to target
- Helping e-Scholar Coordinator develop document series, metadata, etc.
- Submitting grant proposals

Subject/Liaison Librarian Results

- Developing new/renewed relationships with academic departments
 - Convincing some academic departments to devote staff to e-Scholar efforts
 - More involved with Technical Services and IT
 - Varying amounts of interest
 - Can only take conversation so far in terms of technical skill/problem solving
- 

Changing Nature of Academic Librarianship

Outside
Comfort
Zone

Data, Internal Publications
Sponsored Research
Embedded in Research Groups/Centers

EndNote, Comp. Software
Instruction/Outreach
Classrooms, Labs

Skills,
Competencies ?

Books, Journals
Reference Desk
Chemistry Library

Skills,
Competencies

Academic Librarianship over time



Efforts in Chemistry / Chem Eng

- Chemical Engineering
 - Strong supporters of librarian involvement in organizing/archiving data
 - Providing input on system which curates data from sensors and "links" with document information in archive
- CASPiE (Center for Authentic Science Practice in Education)
 - Undergraduate students collecting data from remote instruments
 - Want to explore how to help organize data files for storage and retrieval

General Success

- Focus on problem solving
- Focus on additional services
 - Access and sharing
 - Linking to info from outside e-Scholar (SRU)
- Bring library science skills to the table
- Pursue research Centers and Institutes

Future Directions

- Involve more departments across campus
- Creation of critical mass to maximize services between components
- Formation of e-Pubs Taskforce to create policy recommendations
- Pursuing grants / sponsored funding
- Formation of D2C2 (Distributed Data Curation Center)
 - <http://d2c2.lib.purdue.edu>

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Thank you.

Questions?

